

Reptile Lovers Creativity in Discovering Innovation of Boa Snake Breeding Techniques in Supporting the Family Economy

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Abstract. Creativity and innovation are the keys to entrepreneurship that determine the success of social business. This creativity and innovation arises when various forms of business have been carried out, but have encountered unresolved obstacles. This failure then triggers the emergence of creativity and social innovation in society. The boa constrictor is a species from Central, South America and the Caribbean. In the past, boas that circulated in Indonesia only came from importers, but now there are many reptile lovers who have succeeded in breeding these boas in Indonesia. The purpose of this research is to find out how innovations are made by reptile lovers in finding boa constrictor breeding techniques. This research method is descriptive with a qualitative approach. Data collection techniques in this study used literature studies, interviews and observations. The results of this study are that the failure in breeding boa snakes previously triggered the emergence of creativity and innovation in the breeding technique of boa snakes which is spread among reptile lovers, so that it can support the economy of reptile lovers families. The conclusion of this study is a form of creativity and innovation by reptile lovers in breeding boa constrictors, namely by adjusting the temperature in the snake cage by giving ice cubes and spraying water into the snake cage at night.

Keywords: creativity, innovation, breeding

1 Introduction

The presence of boa snakes in Indonesia is increasing from year to year among reptile lovers. This is known from boa snake sellers in Jakarta, who said that the demand for boa snakes is increasing from year to year, and the demand has even reached outside Java. This is what causes the level of boa snake imports to Indonesia to increase. However, there are not many importers of boa snakes because there are regulations governing the import of animals from abroad to Indonesia, so it takes several stages to bring these boa snakes to Indonesia. However, after

hundreds of boa snakes arrived at the importers' shops, it didn't take long for the boa snakes to run out, because there were already people who had ordered the snakes.

The type of boa that sells the fastest is the normal BCI boa (boa constrictor imperator), because this type of normal BCI is the most popular. According to one hobbyist, the price of this BCI snake is most suitable for a beginner's pocket (one baby is sold for IDR 1,500,000), besides that this snake is very large and elongated, different from the local snake in Indonesia, namely the reticulated python, which can be reaches 5 meters in just 3 to 4 years. Meanwhile, the longest normal BCI boa only reaches 3 meters. Apart from that, this type of boa snake is ovoviviparous, where the babies that come out are not egg-shaped but instead take the form of snakes. This is what attracts reptile lovers to keep boa snakes, because if you keep a snake that lays eggs, it requires more difficult treatment to hatch the eggs.

Most of the buyers of imported boa constrictors are members of the reptile lover community, so how to care for them, handle them and other matters related to the survival of these snakes is always shared knowledge. It is not limited to meeting physically, but this knowledge is shared with the public through its website and social media, so that this knowledge can quickly be absorbed and put into practice directly by the people who read it. The ability of someone in the reptile lover community to discover new things in the community encourages self-confidence in providing information to other people [1] [2] [3] , because basically in this reptile community they are not stingy with the knowledge they get. This self-taught knowledge is an innovation that emerged from treatment that was not necessarily correct, but it turned out that after carrying out this treatment, it turned out that the success and desires that had been previously hoped for were achieved.

For reptile lovers, the highest level of success in keeping snakes is not only care and handling when the snake is sick, nor is the snake healthy and eats voraciously, but the highest level in the community is those who have succeeded in breeding their pet snakes, especially those that are categorized as the best snakes. difficult to breed. If you keep snakes that are native to the Indonesian habitat, the chances of successful breeding will be easier, because the snakes are already suited to the temperatures in Indonesia. However, what is more difficult is breeding animals that are not native to Indonesia, because there are many influencing factors. This is proven by several boa keepers who tried to breed their boa snakes, many of which failed, of the 20 snakes born that were successful, only 3 to 4 of them died.

However, along with the development of social media which is increasingly open, many reptile lovers, especially boa snake keepers, have become boa snake sellers. It turns out that many boa keepers have succeeded in breeding their boa snakes. Not only in Jakarta, but in almost all communities in Indonesia, on social media there are always buying and selling activities resulting from breeding pet boa snakes. If this is true, then it can be said that the emergence of creativity and innovation discovered by snake keepers has encouraged entrepreneurship within the boa keeper community circle [4] .

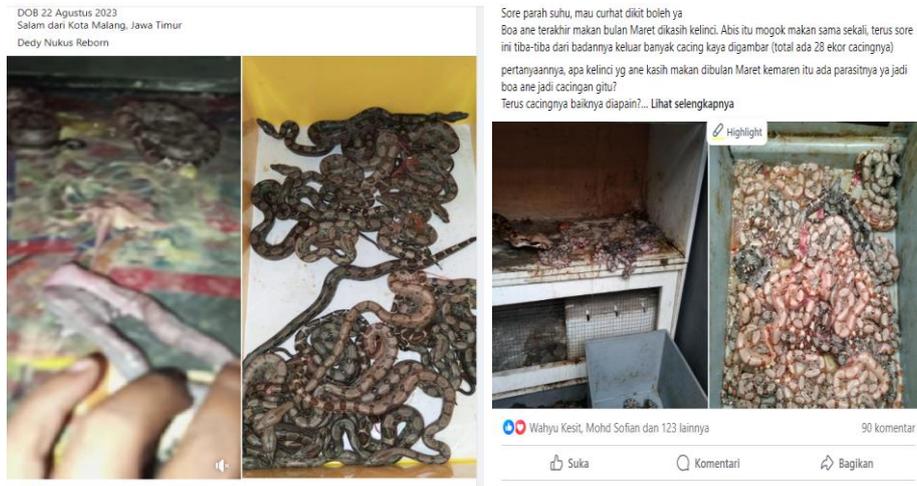


Fig 1. Breeding Baby Boa Snakes

2 Research purposes

Breeding animals that are not native to Indonesia's habitat has its own difficulties, but currently there are boa snake keepers who have succeeded in breeding boa snakes, therefore, the aim of this research is to find out the creativity and innovation carried out by boa snake lovers in breeding snakes.

Research methods

This research is qualitative using ethnographic methods. This research began in July 2021 until January 2022. The informants in this research were Andri and Gejoey, members of the DeRIC community who have succeeded in breeding boa constrictor imperator snakes. Data collection techniques in this research were interviews, participant observation and literature study.

3 Results and Discussion

The boa constrictor is a snake that is distributed in America and the Caribbean islands. There are many types of boa constrictor, and the boa constrictor imperator is a boa that has an average length of around 2.5 meters and is ovoviviparous in its breeding method. This is what makes the boa constrictor imperator the choice of reptile keepers in Indonesia. In its natural habitat, this snake likes to be in damp places and is often found in trees around small and large rivers [5] [6]. Apart from not being as big as the reticulated python, this boa constrictor does not lay eggs but gives birth, so handling it is not too difficult compared to those that lay eggs. However, it turns out that many of these snake keepers are unsuccessful in breeding them. When they are born they will all die, if there are only 3 alive, there are only 3 of them. This is what makes snake keepers discuss their experiences with each other and also the results of reading literature regarding how to breed these snakes. It's a shame that for reference, no one specifically provides tutorials in Indonesian. There are several factors that must be considered when starting breeding.

For male and female boas, the minimum age is 4 years, and temperature regulation is very important in the breeding process. What informants do in the breeding process is temperature. Indonesia, especially Jakarta, is a hot city, so the cages used by boas for mating must be suitable for their natural conditions, considering that they like to be in humid places. This can be overcome by placing ice cubes in the snake's cage. The size of the cage used is 1.5 meters long and 80 cm wide and is made of wood because it can stabilize the temperature if the temperature outside the cage is above 30 °C. It is recommended that the temperature should not be above 29°C. Ice cubes should be given every night until the boa start to mate. Apart from giving ice cubes to the boa's cage, the effort made by the boa snake keeper is to regularly spray the boa's body with water, this is done when the temperature starts to reach 30 °C.

Treatment like this is routinely carried out within one month, and in the second and third months the boa snake has successfully become pregnant. This boa constrictor can give birth twice in one year and gives birth to an average of 20 animals per year. With creativity like this, it turns out that these boa snake keepers have succeeded in breeding their boa snakes. This was done repeatedly and tried by other keepers and succeeded. This technique was finally shared with all community members and also shared on social media owned by the boa snake keepers.

Success in breeding boa snakes began with failures experienced by boa snake keepers. From this failure, creativity emerged which ultimately created a new technique that was successful in breeding boa snakes and generated great economic opportunities [7] [8] . Thus, in increasing knowledge, apart from sharing with each other in the community, the influence of the literature read is also very important in a person's success [9] . If it is successful, then the business can improve the family economy, so that knowledge and friendship links are very influential on a person's success [10] The price of one boa constrictor reaches Rp. 1,000,000, if the keeper succeeds in breeding his boa snakes twice a year, then his business can improve the family's economy [11] .

4 Conclusion

The conclusion of this research is that the failure of boa keepers in breeding their pets encourages keepers to be creative and innovative in producing techniques for breeding boa snakes. Breeding boa snakes must start by paying attention to the natural habitat of these boa snakes, so that regulating the temperature of the cage is an important key in breeding these boa snakes. Apart from that, it is also known that boa snake keepers who successfully breed their pets are financially helped because the selling price of boa snakes is relatively expensive compared to other snakes.

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